

The message of the Book of Acts provides clarity about how to be converted to Christ. Wrong ideas about how to follow God are corrected, the simplicity of the message is preserved, and the importance of the church holding to that message is addressed. The Jews had a lot of wrong ideas about what the messiah was bringing. God carefully and progressively changed their thinking (not without conflicts and disagreements). What Luke records helps us to see where they struggled with what was important about conversion. Luke uses repetition to emphasize important messages. The Apostles had to resolve what was essential for salvation and what was not.

5 Principles from Last Week:

1. It is only in the power and authority of Jesus’ name that salvation can and must be gained. Ac 4:32
2. The promise of God as given by the prophets was restated and repointed by Peter. Ac 2:38-39
3. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in people has always been God’s goal and promise. Ez 11:19; 36:26-27; 37; Is 59:20-21
4. The Holy Spirit makes us one with the Father and with Jesus, and with one another. Jn 17:20-21
5. The Holy Spirit is a person, the Personal Spirit of God; He is not “the Force” and he is not an “it.” He has a number of names that reveal his purpose and his unity with the Father and Jesus. Ac 5:9; 16:6-7; Rm 8:9-11

Questions for Tonight:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who can be saved? 2. What must I do to be saved? 3. What is Baptism? 4. What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. When does the Holy Spirit come to dwell in us? 6. What is the Laying on of Hands? 7. What does it mean to be Filled with the Spirit? 8. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in my Life? |
|--|---|

1 Who can be Saved?

Of the many converted in the 30 years covered in Acts, why did Luke choose to record these specific events?

Each of these events reveals important milestones regarding the spread of the message, who could be saved, how they were saved, how God used their conversions and the issues surrounding their conversions to teach the church

	Acts	Persons/Groups Highlighted	Important Comments
Baptism of Holy Spirit Promise Restated	1:5 11:16	Only 2 times in Acts referring to this prophecy	John's proclamation Jesus restates with new timing
New Promise Stated; Jews Respond	2:36-41	Universal Promise Jewish believers baptized	Holy Spirit poured out on Apostles
Appointing the Seven (Hellenistic Jews)	6:1-6	The seven are full of the Holy Spirit and Wisdom	Apostles pray and lay hands on the seven
Samaritans	8:9-22	Excluded from Israel because of mixed-blood (Ezra, Neh)	Apostles came pray & lay their hands on Samaritans
Eunuch	8:36	Excluded from the Assembly Dt 23:1	He and Philip went down into the water
Persecutor	9:1-18	Saul	Ananias commanded directly by Jesus to go to Saul
Gentile God-Fearers	10:34-38 11:13-17	Difference between Proselytes and God-Fearers	Holy Spirit is poured out on the Gentiles (same as at the beginning)
Gentiles	11:19-21 13:39, 47-49 15:1	Gentiles Converted	Clarifying that circumcision and keeping the Law of Moses is not required to be saved
Gentile Business Woman	16:15	Lydia & Household (includes slaves)	baptism and belief
Roman Soldiers	16:31-34	Gentile Soldier & Household (Includes slaves)	baptism and belief; timing
Jew and Gentiles - Corinthians	18:8...	Corinthians had the reputation of being the most sinful	believed and baptized
John's Followers	18:24-26 19:1 7	Believing in Jesus (the one to come) is not enough	No stigma for not fully understanding; Paul lays on hands; Spirit comes on them
Paul's Conversion Recited 3rd time	22:12-16		v. 16 wash away your sins calling on his name

2. What must I do to be saved?

Ac 2:37 Brothers, what shall we do?

Acts 2:38-41 The Promise is given

Repent.... Define repentance

What isn't repentance?

...And Be Baptized...

3. What is baptism?

baptizō – to immerse; make a thing dipped or dyed . Lev 14:9

John’s baptism changed former practice of Jewish self-immersion (Lk 3:7, 12, 16, 21; 7:20-21)

Jesus had his disciples baptize (Jn 3:22-23; 4:2)

Philip & Eunuch – Ac 8:36-38 baptism described

Baptism is:

A baptism in faith— acting on a promise; Rm 4:16 re: Abraham
 Not of repentance, but because of repentance. Ac 2:38
 A baptism in Jesus’ name Ac 2:21; 22:16; Mt 28:18-20
 A baptism into Christ Rm 6:3
 A baptism into Jesus’ death Rm 6:3
 Where we die with him to be set free from sin Rm 6:6-7

A baptism of resurrection Rm 6:4;
 We are made alive together with Christ by grace Eph 2:5-6
 It is a washing away of sins Ac 22:16
 It is when we are clothed with Christ Gal 3:26-27 ref. Spirit
 It is a baptism of salvation 1 Pt 3:20-21
 It is being born again Jn 3:5-7; Ac 2:38 & Titus 3:5-6 parallel

The promise: **“Repent & be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”** This is for everyone.

4. What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

Announced: Lk 3:16 Jesus will baptize
 Jesus refines timing: in a few days – Ac 1:4-5
 Sound of violent wind, like tongues of fire, filled with Spirit,
 spoke in different languages Ac 2:24
 Explained by Peter Ac 2:16-18

Happens again Ac 10:43-46; Ac 11:15-17
 Performed directly by Jesus
 Jews then Gentiles
 Peter still required them to be baptized

5. When does the Holy Spirit come to dwell in us?

Ac 2:38-41 Integral part of the promise for all
 Jn 3:5-7 Jesus describes what Peter announces
 Titus 3:5 Paul describes what Peter announces

Gal 2:26-27 In baptism we are clothed with Christ
 Eph 1:13 When we believed we were sealed with HS

6. What is the Laying on of Hands?

Old Covenant: transfer sins to sacrifices
 Blessings given to sons Gen. 48
 Moses commissions Joshua Nm 27:18-23
 Joshua receives power Dt 34:9
 Jesus healed the sick Mk 6:5; Lk 4:4
 Apostles appointed the Seven Ac 6:5-6

Stephen full of power performs signs & wonders Ac 6:8
 Philip performs wonders in Samaria, baptizing 8:4-6
 Apostles to Samaria; lay hands to give the Spirit 8:15-19
 Philip baptizes Eunuch; Eunuch to Ethiopia Ac 8:36-39
 Paul links baptism and receiving Holy Spirit Ac 19:1-6
 Paul lays hands on John’s disciples & HS comes Ac 19:6

At each new stage in spreading the message we see the Apostles laying on hands to enable the message to be confirmed. Heb 2:4

7. What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

Ex 31:3; 35:31 Ac 6:3
 Deut 34:9 Ac 7:55
 Micah 3:8 Ac 9:17
 Lk 1:15, 41, 67 Ac 11:24
 Lk 4:1 Ac 13:9, 52
 Ac 2:4 Rm 15:13
 Ac 4:8 Eph 5:18
 Ac 4:31

Eph 5:18 calls us to be filled with the Spirit. How do we do that?

Lk 11:9-10, 11-13 1 Thes 5:16-22
 Rm 8:5, 12-13 Eph 5:18-20

8. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in my life?

..... Next class

References regarding the performance of signs, wonders and miracles	
Acts 2:22	"Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— Ac 2:22
Acts 2:43	Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. Ac 2:43
Acts 3:4-16	Peter heals lame man at temple... And on the basis of faith in his name - his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know.
Acts 4:30	while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus." Ac 4:30
Acts 5:12	At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon’s portico. Ac 5:12
Acts 6:8	Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people. Ac 6:8
Acts 7:36	This man (Moses) led them out, performing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt and in the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years. Ac 7:36
Acts 14:3	Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands. Ac 14:3
Acts 15:12	All the people kept silent, and they were listening to Barnabas and Paul as they were relating what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. Ac 15:12
Rom 15:19	For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in bringing the Gentiles to obedience, by word and deed, by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled my ministry of proclaiming the gospel of Christ. Rm 15:18-19
2 Cor 12:12	The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles. 2 Co 12:12
Heb 2:4	After it (the message of salvation) was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will. Heb 2:4